

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA, ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Chairman Jason R. Jones
- Vice Chairman Theron McCabe
- Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
- Commissioner Perry L. Morris
- Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
- Commissioner M. Renée Sisk
- Commissioner Steve Tyson

STAFF PRESENT:

- Harold Blizzard, County Manager
- Ray H. Moser, Assistant County Manager
- Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
- Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
- Jim Hicks, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Allen and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Sisk moved to approve minutes of March 17, 2008 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Allen asked that the item relative to correction of the February 18, 2008 minutes be removed from the consent agenda.

Subdivision for Approval

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivision for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for its approval, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Shelton P. Toler & Henry Wayne Murphy Division – Final: The property, owned by Lewis and Associates, Inc. and surveyed by Robert Davis, is located within Twp. 2 off of SR 1435 (Cool Springs Road). The subdivision contains 2 lots on 9.6 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems.

Budget Amendments

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Health/Environmental(Food/Lodging)

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-3101-349-29-00 State Food/Lodging	\$(1,083)	101-3101-420-32-40 Other Supplies	\$(1,083)
		9,000.00 Originally budgeted (750.00) Already received from State (7,166.63) Additional State Funding	
		(1,083.37) Budget Decrease	

TOTAL	\$(1,083)	TOTAL	\$(1,083)
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Justification: Additional state funding is available due to 71% compliance rate for mandated inspections of food and lodging establishments. Although additional funds are available, original budget amount is more than total state funding available.

Convention Center

101-8201-357-75-00	\$30,000.00	101-8201-430-10-04	\$10,000.00
Space Rental		P/T Salaries	
101-8201-357-70-00	\$46,000.00	101-8201-430-40-50	\$6,000.00
Catering Commission		Temporary Employees	
101-8201-357-74-00	\$10,000.00	101-8201-430-32-23	\$8,000.00
Coffee Breaks		Coffee Breaks	
101-8201-357-13-00	\$2,500.00	101-8201-430-32-11	\$1,500.00
Rebillable Items		Laundry	
101-8201-357-81-00	\$6,000.00	101-8201-430-22-00	\$1,000.00
Equipment Rental		Telephone	
101-8201-357-78-00	\$1,800.00	101-8201-430-26-02	\$5,000.00
Service Charge Breaks		M/R Equipment	
101-8201-335-00-00	\$1,500.00	101-8201-430-26-01	\$8,000.00
Miscellaneous		M/R Building	
		101-8201-430-32-07	\$3,000.00
		Janitorial	
		101-8201-540-32-40	\$1,000.00
		Other Supplies	
		101-8201-430-40-0	\$7,000.00
		Contract Services	
		101-8201-430-23-0	\$12,000.00
		Utilities	
		101-8201-430-32-21	\$1,500.00
		Rebillable Items	
		101-8201-430-98-16	\$33,800.00
		County Reserve	
TOTAL	\$97,800.00	TOTAL	\$97,800.00

Justification: Increased revenue and increased expenses.

Schools

101-0000-399-01-00	\$74,875.00	101-8500-480-37-01	\$74,875.00
Fund Balance		Schools C/E	
TOTAL	\$74,875.00	TOTAL	\$74,875.00

Justification: Budget fund balance to cover State increase of 4% versus 2.5% budgeted.

E911

221-0000-399-01-00	\$187,437.00	221-2501-410-96-69	\$30,740.00
Fund Balance		Havelock	
		221-2501-410-98-16	\$156,697.00
		Reserve Fd 371	

JOURNAL ENTRY

221-2501-410-98-16	\$156,697.33	221-0000-101-00-00	\$156,697.33
To Reserve Fd 371		Cash	
371-0000-101-00-00	\$156,697.33	371-0000-366-01-00	\$156,697.33
Cash		Fr General Fd 101	

Justification: Budget and Transfer cash from E911 Wired Funds (Fund 221) to County Reserve (Fund 371).

Wireless 2511/Fund 222

101-0000-399-01-00	\$122,769.00	101-2511-410-97-22	\$122,769.00
Fund Balance		To Fd 222	
101-2511-348-23-00	\$(13,227.00)	101-2511-410-26-02	\$(135.00)
Wireless		M/R Equip	
101-0000-399-01-00	\$31,392.00	101-2511-410-40-55	\$(13,092.00)
Fund Balance		Sprint New Bern	
101-2511-348-23-0	\$(37,796.00)		
Wireless			
101-2511-366-50-0	\$6,404.00		
222-0000-348-23-00	\$13,227.00	222-2501-410-26-02	\$135.00
Wireless Fees		M/R Equip	
		222-2501-410-40-55	\$13,092.00
		Sprint New Bern	
JOURNAL ENTRY			
101-2511-410-97-22	\$122,768.82	101-0000-101-00-00	\$122,768.82
To Fd 222		Cash	
222-0000-101-00-00	\$122,768.82	222-0000-366-01-00	\$122,768.82
Cash		Fr Genl Fd Dept 2511	
TOTAL	\$368,306.64	TOTAL	\$368,306.64

Justification: Close out General Fd Dept 2511 Wireless to E911 Fund 222.

E911

221-0000-329-00-00	\$1,351.00	221-2501-410-10-02	\$(17,891.00)
Interest		Salaries	
221-0000-357-33-00	\$(135,999.00)	221-2501-410-10-03	\$(550.00)
Subscriber Fees		Merit	
221-0000-399-00-00	\$(35,223.00)	221-2501-410-10-04	\$(9,131.00)
Fund Balance		Pt Salaries	
		221-2501-410-10-05	\$(25.00)
		Longevity	
		221-2501-410-11-01	(2,068.00)
		Fica	
		221-2501-410-11-02	\$(875.00)
		Retirement	
		221-2501-410-11-03	\$(716.00)
		401K	
		221-2501-410-11-04	\$(92.00)
		W/C	
		221-2501-410-11-06	\$(2,490.00)
		Hlth	
		221-2501-410-11-07	\$(180.00)
		Dental	
		221-2501-410-11-08	\$(11.00)
		Life	
		221-2501-410-11-09	\$(13.00)
		Disability	
		221-2501-410-15-12	\$(224.00)
		Audit	
		221-2501-410-15-10	\$(300.00)
		Admin Fees	

		221-2501-410-26-02	\$(670.00)
		M/R Equip	
		221-2501-410-40-36	\$(4,736.00)
		Data Base Provision	
		221-2501-410-40-53	\$(29,375.00)
		Interact	
		221-2501-410-40-54	\$(12,500.00)
		Havelock	
		221-2501-410-40-55	\$(58,024.00)
		Sprint New Bern	
		221-2501-410-98-10	\$(30,000.00)
		To Genl Fd 101	
TOTAL	\$(169,871.00)	TOTAL	\$(169,871.00)

Justification: Close out E911 Consolidated Fd 221; Craven County budget to be transferred to Fund 222.

E911 Fund 222

222-0000-348-23-00	\$127,371.00	222-2501-410-10-02	\$17,891.00
State		Salaries	
		222-2501-410-10-03	\$550.00
		Merit	
		222-2501-410-10-04	\$9,131.00
		Pt Salaries	
		222-2501-410-10-05	\$25.00
		Longevity	
		222-2501-410-11-01	\$2,068.00
		Fica	
		222-2501-410-11-02	\$875.00
		Retirement	
		222-2501-410-11-03	\$716.00
		401K	
		222-2501-410-11-04	\$92.00
		W/C	
		222-2501-410-11-06	\$2,490.00
		Hlth	
		222-2501-410-11-07	\$180.00
		Dental	
		222-2501-410-11-08	\$11.00
		Life	
		222-2501-410-11-09	\$13.00
		Disability	
		222-2501-410-15-01	\$224.00
		Audit	
		222-2501-410-15-10	\$300.00
		Admin Fees	
		222-2501-410-26-02	\$670.00
		M/R Equip	
		222-2501-410-40-36	\$4,736.00
		Data Base Provision	
		222-2501-410-40-53	\$29,375.00
		Interact	
		222-2501-410-40-54	\$58,024.00
		Sprint New Bern	
TOTAL	\$127,371.00	TOTAL	\$127,371.00

Justification: Close out E911 Consolidated Fund 222. Craven County budget to be transferred to Fund 222

Tax Releases and Refunds

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following tax releases and refunds for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET#	AMOUNT
ARNOLD, JAMES PAUL DWELLING DID NOT EXIST 1-1-07	2007-0001523	\$36.00
CARDOZE, STEVE ADJUSTMENT PER BILL OF SALE	2007-0091421	\$389.12
COVENANT PARTNERS OF NEW BERN CORRECTING APPRAISAL ERROR	2007-0012084	\$592.15
CROATAN BOATWORKS LLC NOT IN BUSINESS 01/01/2007	2007-0090372	\$104.91
CULBRETH, ANDREW D CORRECTED APPRAISAL ERROR	2007-0013020	\$189.19
CWE-1 LLC ET AL LATE LISTING CHARGED IN ERROR	2007-0013188	\$258.06
DICKINSON, TODD WILLIAM VALUE ADJUSTED PER BILL OF SALE	2007-0091623	\$395.23
ENSLEY, JULIUS RUSSELL DID NOT OWN 01/01/2007	2007-0017162	\$239.29
GATLIN, EMMA PETERSON & CRAIG DID NOT OWN 01/01/2001	2001-0091548	\$295.77
GATLIN, EMMA PETERSON & CRAIG DID NOT OWN 01/01/2002	2002-0018768	\$260.43
GATLIN, EMMA PETERSON & CRAIG DID NOT OWN 01/01/2003	2003-0018877	\$228.06
GATLIN, EMMA PETERSON & CRAIG DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0019207	\$204.81
GOODMAN, RICK LEE DID NOT OWN 01/01/2007	2007-0090504	\$32.17
RHODES, WALTER HARDY HRS DID NOT OWN 01/01/2006	2006-0044660	\$47.96
RODENKIRK, VINCENT L JR & ANGE MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 07 LES-AZ DD214-10/31/07	2007-0047141	\$69.91
SEAGRAVES, CHANDLER P & TERESA MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-FL ECC-NONE (MAJOR)	2007-0049035	\$19.21
SMITH, MICHELLE G VACANT PROPERTY	2007-0050745	\$37.53

SWEENEY, JAMES F JR & MICHELLE MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-NJ ECC-09/28/09	2007-0053007	\$120.69
SWEENEY, JAMES F JR & MICHELLE MILITARY-HIS NAME ONLY 08 LES-NJ ECC-09/28/09	2006-0051387	\$143.87
TILLMAN, GLENN M & TINA S DI D NOT OWN 01/01/2007	2007-0054542	\$8.93
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE-LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2007-0057107	\$7.70
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2006-0055382	\$10.54
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2005-0054483	\$11.39
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2004-0052935	\$11.65
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2003-0052337	\$12.49
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2002-0051925	\$13.31
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2001-0051101	\$10.10
WALSTON, PRISCILLA & KORNEGAY FORECLOSURE – LIEN EXTINGUISHED	2000-0050745	\$4.81
WILCOX, ROGER NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO. 01/01/07	2007-0091560	\$2,098.56
	29 – CREDIT MEMO (S)	\$5,853.84
<i>Refunds</i>		
FRINK, RICHARD G & GLORIA R DID NOT OWN 01/01/07	2007-0019553	\$25.24
GOODMAN, RICK LEE DID NOW OWN 01/01/2006	2006-0090397	\$31.19
NELSON, CLYDE E III ANNEXED-REFUND 4 MONTHS FIRE TAX	2007-0040602	\$8.28
NELSON, LARUE W ANNEXED – REFUND 4 MONTHS FIRE TAX	2007-0040677	\$14.08
SMITH, MICHELLE G VACANT PROPERTY	2006-0049170	\$32.97
SMITH, MICHELLE G VACANT PROERTY	2005-0048502	\$32.64
SMITH, MICHELLE G VACANT PROPERTY	2004-0047108	\$32.64

SMITH, MICHELLE G
VACANT PROPERTY

2003-0046576

\$31.99

8 – REFUND (\$)

\$209.03

Request for Release of Late Listing Penalty

Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, presented a request on behalf of Mr. Richard W. Yarbrough, Palace Motel, New Bern, who requested a release for the penalty in the amount of \$221.55 for late filing and late payment of the hotel and motel room occupancy tax. Mr. Antry recommended that the request be denied to uphold fairness to those filing and paying on time, and in keeping with the Board’s actions in previous circumstances. Commissioner Sampson moved to accept Mr. Antry’s recommendation and deny the request for release of the late listing penalty, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Health – Child Health Fee Adjustment

The Health Board recommended that the following schedule of adjustments to fees in Child Health be made in order to be equal to or greater than the rates paid by Medicaid and Medicare, as required. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the following rate adjustments, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

<u>Procedure Code/Description</u>	<u>Medicaid Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>
<u>Child Health Laboratory</u>		
87184/Urine Sensitivity	\$9.63	\$10.00
85652/Sedimentation Rate	\$3.77	\$4.00
<u>Child Health</u>		
92587/Evoked Otoacoustic Emissions (Hearing Test)	\$46.54	\$47.00
92567/Tympanometry (Measures fluid behind ear drum)	\$18.29	\$19.00

Falls Lake Resolution

The following resolution was submitted by the Chairman on behalf of a business in Lenoir County, with a request for its adoption. The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners also adopted the resolution. Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt the following resolution, as requested, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION OF CONCERN REGARDING
FALLS LAKE DAM**

WHEREAS, the construction of Falls Lake Dam began in 1978 as a result of the Flood Control Act of 1965 and was placed in full service in December, 1983; and

WHEREAS, one of the legal purposes of the Dam was to store stormwater runoff to control flooding downstream; and

WHEREAS, Craven County still has many residents and businesses located near the Neuse River; and

WHEREAS, these individuals have suffered great financial loss in years past as a result of the Neuse overflowing its banks; and

WHEREAS, the Craven County Board of Commissioners has been made aware of the recent request by the City of Raleigh that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers perform a study to examine increasing the allocation of the Falls Lake Dam storage for water supply; and

WHEREAS, Craven County is very much concerned with the effects such a change in policy would have on flood control for the communities located downstream of the dam; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Craven County Board of Commissioners cannot support a change in current operation of the Falls Lake Dam which would negatively impact flood control along the banks of the Neuse River; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all municipalities, counties and affected persons along the Neuse River are urged to be vigilant concerning any further discussions of such a change in policy.

Adopted this the 7th day of April, 2008.

APPROVAL OF CORRECTION TO THE FEBRUARY 18, 2008 MINUTES

Commissioner Allen moved to approve the correction of lines 324 and 325 of the February 18, 2008 minutes, as follows. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

[Mr. Hicks responded that inside the City of New Bern the County ~~was previously~~ ^(is) limited to policy or rule making; ~~however, a new law does not limit the County to these actions.~~ ^(.)

Commissioner Allen noted for the record that the sentence should reflect that the limitation to the County's ordinance making authority applies to all municipalities, not just the City of New Bern.

PUBLIC HEARING – FOX TRAPPING RULES

At 7:05 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to go into public hearing, as advertised, to receive public comment on a request to seek support for establishment of fox trapping season in Craven County. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The Board was reminded that a petition had been presented on February 4, 2008 by Mr. Ryan Willett, asking that the Board petition the legislative delegation to support a fox hunting season in Craven County. The speakers were as follows:

1. *Jeanne Crockett, 3600 White Oak Drive*, opposed the proposed legislation because she indicated that she opposes leg hold traps.
2. *Terry Morris, 109 Swift Creek Rd., Vanceboro*, stated that coyotes and foxes have become a nuisance and are killing birds and small game in the area. He asked the Board to please consider support for legislation that would allow fox trapping in Craven County, thereby giving land owners an opportunity to remove this nuisance. He emphasized that proposed legislation would require written permission of land owners to allow traps to be set on their property.
3. *Claudie Taylor, 575 Backwoods Rd., Vanceboro*, spoke in favor of legislation providing for a fox trapping season in Craven County. He stated that quail will soon be an endangered species in the area if there are no management tools given. Mr. Taylor, who has recently retired from the Department of Agriculture Beaver Management Program, informed the Board that rabies is one method whereby nature addresses overpopulation, and this poses a danger. He indicated that the steel jaw traps that were used in the past are no longer used. The traps that are currently used are more humane.
4. *Rusty Woolard, 1025 Wilmar Rd., Vanceboro*, spoke in favor of fox trapping provisions, stating that the fox problem is an epidemic and they also carry diseases.

5. *Christopher Willett, 221 Shepard St., Havelock*, spoke in favor of the proposed rules allowing fox trapping. Mr. Willett originally introduced the issue to the Board.
6. *Charles Eaton, 2450 Hills Neck Rd., Ernul*, spoke in favor of a fox trapping season in Craven County, indicating that the quail population has been decimated by predators, and the fox is largely responsible.

Colleen Olfenbuttal, who is a Fur Bearer Biologist with the NC Wildlife Commission, was asked to speak and answer any questions from the public. Ms. Olfenbuttal indicated that the traps would only be allowed with the landowner's permission and that they must be tagged with the trappers information. She also stated that the traps that are used are not leg hold traps but foot hold traps. She stated that dogs and cats that are accidentally snared can be safely removed.

At 7:30 p.m., there being no additional speakers from the public, Commissioner Allen moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

Commissioner Morris moved to indicate support for a proposed bill, seconded by Commissioner Tyson, as follows. The motion carried unanimously.

**AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE TRAPPING AND SALE OF FOXES IN
CRAVEN COUNTY**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there is an open season for taking foxes by trapping from January 2 through February 28 of each year.

SECTION 2. No season bag limit applies to foxes taken under this act.

SECTION 3. This act applies only to Craven County.

SECTION 4. This act becomes law effective October 1, 2008.

**PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING AMENDMENT TO THE ANIMAL
CONTROL ORDINANCE**

At its session on March 17 the Board received a request from the Health Director for amendment of the Animal Control Ordinance to make the impoundment period of Article III Sterilization (5 days), consistent with the impoundment period stated in Article IV Rabies Control (72 hours). Ms. Sandelé was called forth to present the matter. She stated that the issue is not when the animal control department is authorized to euthanize an animal, but a timeframe in which they are given an opportunity to decide on the disposition of an animal through adoption or other means.

At 7:35 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to go into public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried. The following members of the public spoke:

1. *Jeanne Crockett* opposed the proposed amendment and stated that making both time periods for impoundment 5 days as opposed to 3 would be preferable.
2. *Claire Ingram, 217 Derby Park*, urged the Board to be careful in making such a change, to insure that the change would not limit the chances of animals for adoption. She supported the concept of a citizen advisory group for the animal control department.
3. *Lisa Gagnon, 523 Watson Ave.*, opposed the proposed amendment, stating that she believes it would be an excuse to euthanize animals.

4. *Ronald Stevens, Pamlico County*, stated that 5,000-6,000 animals being euthanized in Craven County per year indicates a serious problem that would not necessarily be addressed with the proposed amendment.

At 7:45 p.m., there being no further speakers, Commissioner Sampson moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Animal Control Officer, Kathryn Smith, was asked to come forward to give her comments. She stated that the proposed amendment is not an issue of euthanasia or overpopulation. Most animals are pets left by people who no longer want them. She urged that the Board consider making the impoundment periods in Craven County consistent with state law. Commissioner Sisk stated her opposition to the proposed amendment and indicated that she would vote against it. Commissioner Allen moved to table the matter, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Stephen Nuckolls, Coastal Carolina Health Care (CCHC), requested that the Board approve a letter of support to the CCHC application for a second fixed MRI machine. He stated that one had been awarded in 2004, but has reached its capacity, currently running 14 hours a day and 12 hours a day on Saturdays and Sundays. He indicated to the Board that the hospital is not applying for the equipment in this cycle and it is not opposing the applications of others. Commissioner Sampson, who serves on the Hospital Authority Board, confirmed the hospital's position. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the request, and authorize a letter of support from the Board, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

The following citizens spoke to the Board in opposition of the siting of the new Judicial Center.

Charlie Simmons
Sandra Simmons

APPOINTMENTS – CRAVEN REGIONAL MEDICAL AUTHORITY

The Board received a request for approval of a slate submitted by the Craven Regional Medical Authority. Commissioner Morris moved to accept the following slate, as presented, and to waive the one meeting waiting requirement, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Mr. Lonnie E. Pridgen, Jr – Reappointment 6/1/2008-05/31/2011
Mr. Edward P. Armstrong – Reappointment 06/01/2008-05/31/2011
Mr. Johnnie Sampson, Jr. – Reappointment 06/01/2008 – 05/31/2011
Dr. Sydney F. Barnwell – Reappointment 06/01/2008 – 05/31/2011
Mr. Robert W. Eves, Jr. – Reappointment 06/01/2008 – 05/31/2011
Mr. Dell Ipock – Appointment (expired term of Jimmie L. Morris) 06/01/2007 – 05/31/2010

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Hicks, reported that Lot 79 Tobago Section in Fairfield Harbour, which the Board had voted to dispose of previously, has not been sold as expected. The sale that had been arranged did not go through. He stated that there are mitigation issues and restrictions on building on the lot. He recommended that the Board advertise for sealed bids. Commissioner Morris moved to allow the County Attorney to advertise for sealed bids, as recommended, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT

Assistant County Manager, Ray Moser, presented bids for the sewer pumping station and force main extension at the new Judicial Center. He recommended that the Board approve the lowest responsible bidder, Ormond Utilities, LLC, for the amount of \$255,570. The bid tabulation is as follows:

CONTRACTORS/BIDDERS	BID AMOUNT
Cieszko Construction Company, Inc.	\$313,107.00
Empire Construction Company, Inc.	\$259,267.00
Hendrix-Barnhill Company, Inc.	\$279,983.00
Herring-Rivenbark, Inc.	\$378,831.00
James L. Cayton Utilities, Inc.	\$298,641.00
Ormond Utilities, LLC	\$255,570.00
T.A. Loving Company	\$273,631.00
Thomas Simpson Construction Co., Inc.	\$337,810.70
Trader Construction Company	\$293,187.00
W.O. White, LLC	\$302,353.40

Commissioner Morris moved to approve the recommendation for award of the bid, seconded by Commissioner Allen and carried in a roll call vote by five (5) “Ayes”, there being two (2) “Nays” from Commissioners Jones and McCabe.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Commissioner Tyson reported that the legislative delegation has earmarked \$73,000 for traffic signal enhancements along the Highway 70 East corridor, as requested.

Commissioner Morris reported that his father, Mr. Jimmie Morris, former Mayor of Vanceboro who has been ill for some time, is beginning to have some set backs and asked for the prayers of all.

Commissioner Sampson commented on the escalating gas prices. He also reported that the re-entry bill has passed but has not yet been signed into law.

Commissioner Allen reported on his participation in the North Carolina Accreditation Team Training for those who conduct site visits.

Commissioner McCabe announced that he is still working with the Department of Transportation and the Planning Department concerning elevation of Adams Creek Road and dangerous conditions on Blades Road. He stated that he had toured the roads with Department of Transportation District Engineer, Reed Smith.

Commissioner Jones announced that Tom Reeder with the Division of Water Quality has been invited to attend the Board’s next meeting to discuss proposed stormwater rules. He also reported that Greenbrier residents have expressed concerns about the traffic signal at the exit to Greenbrier and he has planned to confer with Representative Underhill and the Department of Transportation to seek upgrades to that intersection. He made comments in review of the joint meeting with the Board of Education, which was held on March 17, concerning the Baldrige Program. He clarified that it is a process of collection of data that the school system uses relative to goal setting and self evaluation. He indicated that he had received a number of calls from teachers in Craven County in opposition to the use of the Baldrige program in the County; however, they also stated that they were afraid to be too vocal openly. Their complaint about the program is that it is too time consuming and involves too much paperwork. Commissioner Allen indicated that he received similar calls.

At 8:35 p.m. Commissioner Morris moved to go into closed session, following a five minute recess for consultation with the County Attorney subject to attorney/client privilege pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner McCabe seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

At 9:50 p.m. the Board returned to regular session. The County Attorney reported that no action had been taken in closed session.

At 9:52 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board